

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for filing is the Utility patent application of:

INVENTOR: **YASUTAKA NISHIDA AND TAKEHIKO HAMAGUCHI**  
FOR: **MAGNETIC RECORDING APPARATUS, MAGNETIC  
RECORDING MEDIUM AND MAGNETIC RECORDING  
METHOD**

Enclosed are:

- ☒ 9 sheets of ☐ formal ☐ informal drawings.
- ☒ Transmittal of Japanese application 2003-178715 to claim priority date of June 23, 2003.
- ☒ An assignment of the invention to Hitachi, Ltd.
- ☒ An Information Disclosure Statement
- ☒ An Executed Declaration.
- ☒ The filing fee is calculated as shown below:

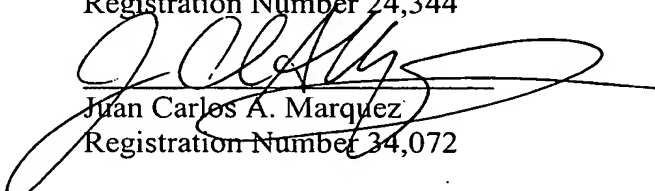
FOR	NUMBER FILED		NUMBER EXTRA	RATE	CALCULATIONS
TOTAL CLAIMS	11	-20		x\$18 =	0.00
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS	3	-3		x\$86 =	0.00
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM(S) (if applicable)				+\$290 =	
BASIC FEE					\$770.00
TOTAL OF ABOVE					\$770.00
REDUCTION BY <input type="checkbox"/> FOR FILING BY SMALL ENTITY (note 37 C.F.R. § 1.9, 1.27, 1.28).					
IF APPLICABLE, VERIFIED STATEMENT MUST BE ATTACHED					
TOTAL					\$770.00

- ☒ A check in the amount of **\$810.00** to cover the filing and assignment fees is enclosed.

☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees associated with this communication, including patent application filing fees and processing fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 and 1.17, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account Number 08-1480.

Respectfully submitted,

Stanley P. Fisher  
Registration Number 24,344

  
Juan Carlos A. Marquez  
Registration Number 34,072

**REED SMITH LLP**  
3110 Fairview Park Drive  
Suite 1400  
Falls Church, Virginia 22042  
(703) 641-4200  
October 30, 2003

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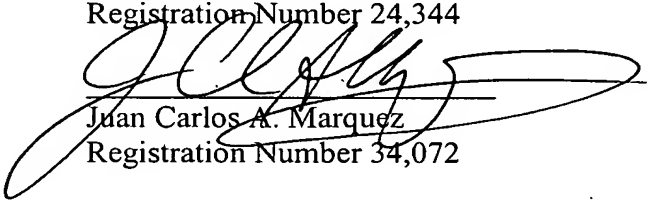
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